

**From:** [Sen. Anna MacKinnon](#)  
**To:** [Senate Finance Committee](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stop Attacks on Qualified Health Professionals! Let Nurses Into Our Schools!  
**Date:** Friday, April 15, 2016 11:24:28 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Schwartz [<mailto:ram40@mtaonline.net>]  
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2016 8:08 PM  
To: Sen. Pete Kelly <[Sen.Pete.Kelly@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Pete.Kelly@akleg.gov)>; Sen. Anna MacKinnon <[Sen.Anna.MacKinnon@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Anna.MacKinnon@akleg.gov)>; Sen. Click Bishop <[Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Click.Bishop@akleg.gov)>; [seantor.mike.dunleavy@akleg.gov](mailto:seantor.mike.dunleavy@akleg.gov); Sen. Peter Micciche <[Sen.Peter.Micciche@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Peter.Micciche@akleg.gov)>; Sen. Lyman Hoffman <[Sen.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Lyman.Hoffman@akleg.gov)>; Sen. Donny Olson <[Sen.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov](mailto:Sen.Donny.Olson@akleg.gov)>  
Subject: Stop Attacks on Qualified Health Professionals! Let Nurses Into Our Schools!

Dear Senators,

I am an Alaskan Nurse, and I am writing to urge you to OPPOSE House Bill 156. Amendment #1 offered in the Senate by Senator Dunleavy is dangerous to the health of Alaska's children. This amendment has even more far-reaching consequences: Community health nurses, pharmacist, peer educators, and even a doctor giving a guest presentation could no longer teach human sexuality or sex education in Alaska public schools. Our schools rely on all of the community resources we have available – whether that is a nurse, a visiting doctor, or pharmacist - to provide as much information to our youth as possible. The legislature should not be making decisions on what resources school districts can use to offer comprehensive, evidence based programs that fits a local community's needs. In many communities across the state, school nurses and public health nurses provide much needed sexual health education to our schools. Alaska already battles some of the highest rates of STDs and STIs in the country. This bill would have impacts across the state, but rural communities would be hit hardest. Rural Alaskans rely on public health nurses and school nurses to provide this important education. Banning qualified health professionals from our schools will only make things worse. I urge you to stop the attacks on qualified sexual health educators and strongly oppose House Bill 156.

Sincerely,  
Mark Schwartz BSN RN CNOR

Sent from my iPhone